

Transcript – Preparation For The Passover 2024

All righty, Shabbat shalom! And Shabbat shalom to everybody with us today.

Here we are, another year gone and another Passover on the horizon. So, we are told ... at least the elders are ... to give meat in due season and this message is called *Preparation for Passover 2024*. And I want to start in 1st Corinthians 11, and verse 23. 1st Corinthians 11 in verse 23 says:

1st Corinthians 11: 23-31 *For I received from the Master what I delivered to you, that the Master Yahshua in the night in which He was betrayed ... the night of the Passover ... he took bread; and giving thanks, He **broke** and said, eat, this is My body which is broken on behalf of you, this do in remembrance of Me. In the same way the cup also, after supping, saying, this cup is the New Covenant in My blood, each time you drink it, do this in remembrance of **Me**. For each time that you may eat this bread, and drink this cup, you **solemnly** commemorate the death of our Master, until His coming. So that whoever should eat this bread, or drink the cup of Master YAHWEH, unworthily, that one will be guilty of the body and the blood of the Master YAHWEH. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread, and let him drink of the cup; for he eating and drinking unworthily eats and drinks to his condemnation, not discerning the body of the Master YAHWEH. For this reason many among you are sick and weak, and many sleep ... many even died ... For if we discerned ourselves, we would **not** be judged.*

So, we do this all the time, *particularly* even before we become a believer we have to discern ourselves and we have to repent of our sins, accept the blood of Yahshua in faith for the forgiveness of our sins. But Passover ... and I've said this many times ... Passover, the covenant, the new covenant we're in now, *is a year by year* covenant. So, *every* year we have to renew that covenant. And Passover is the *time* where we're *commanded* to really reflect. *Are we? Are we really living up to our covenant? Do we think about it? And it's not just a matter of ... I talk about praying every day, studying our Bible everyday, it's a matter are we living up to the covenant that we went into? And this is where, at this time of the year, we are supposed to be deeply examining ourselves, right?*

So, *this* is the time, more than *anything*, where we're *only* ... no matter what your life is like, no matter what you think is good, bad or indifferent ... this is the time where you're looking in at *you*. It's about *you*, because *you* made that relationship with Yahweh through the blood of Yahshua. *You* made covenant relationship with Him and *you're* supposed to be *looking* in your *life* and *seeing* where you're falling short.

So, it's important and *particularly* this year, more than ever, right? The shemita ended six months ago now. Boy, a lot of thing are happening since the shemita ended. The war in Israel, which can be expanding now. *All* the other things going on and the month of April now, with the great eclipse that happened and *all* the other things that are happening here in the month of April, going on.

So, it is a *major* year, possibly the first year of the last seven, going into the Kingdom. So, if there's *ever* a year where we should be *reflecting*, it's this year. And unfortunately, like I said, I've seen it now, being in faith *almost* forty years, being an elder for thirty years, that there's a lot of people that no matter what you say, they're just not going to do it. It's just ... it's human nature, unfortunately. And we know ... *will many be saved?* And Yahshua's answer was, "No." So, at the end all you can do is ... and Yahweh has really been showing this to me the last year ... you just have to preach what the truth is. And again, the only thing I can do is, play the flute. It's up to people to put it in their life and to change and do whatever. And unfortunately, like I said, a very few will. But at least Yahweh's Kingdom is going to be *expanded* by those people and the rest unfortunately, the misery of their lives from not following Yahweh, will end. That will be the end of it.

So, it's not *punishment* necessarily—although they are reaping what they sow in the end when Yahshua returns—but at the same rate, the misery ... because if people are *not* following the way of Yahweh, if they're going their own way they'll be miserable, just like the world is today. And you see this more ... I mean, I am sixty years old this year and in my whole life, I have *never* seen in the world—I'm not talking about the congregation; in the congregation, people for the most part are happy—but I have *never* seen in the world more people *distressed, uneasy* and even in regular news, people not

knowing what tomorrow will bring. And it's because of the way the world is and that the way is turned away from Yahweh.

So, this is where we have to be reflecting in this, now, and it begins in Proverbs 1:7, right?

Proverbs 1:7 *The fear of YAHWEH is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

The **fear** of YAHWEH is the beginning of knowledge. And that's the problem, that the world does *not* fear Yahweh. They don't even want to admit He *exists*, can you imagine? How *utterly* ridiculous, that you have *everything* that is here in the world ... you have the human body with a hundred *billion* cells and every cell has a hundred *million* configurations to it and the fact that *none* of it can work—just like a computer program being programmed—unless *everything* is programmed *correctly*. And yet, we're supposed to believe that this just all happened by an *explosion*? Explosions bring destruction. They don't bring order, they bring chaos.

And it's ridiculous, but it's again, *mankind* not wanting to have the fear of Yahweh—and they're foolish. They're fools because they despise instruction. So, that's where it begins. It *begins* with having *not* fear of human beings that can take your physical life, but fearing the One who can take your *soul* and destroy it in Gehenna. And what is the problem with that? Revelation 3 in verse 14.

The problem is, we're living in the Laodicean era and people are just blinded to it. There is *more physical* blindness as well as spirit ... and I don't mean physical blindness *physically*, that people can't *physically* see, but I mean, not just spiritually being blind from the Bible, but a blindness to *everything*. There is more fake news than we've ever seen in our *life*. There's more crazy *beliefs* and conspiracy theories, there's *every* kind of crazy thing out there that's untrue and it's because we're living in the Laodicean era because people *simply* think they're right when they're not. Revelation 3 in verse 14 says:

Revelation 3:14-15 *And to the messenger of the congregation of Laodicea, write: These things says the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Head of the creation of Elohim ... Yahshua ... I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I would that you were cold, or hot.*

Comment: Right? The Laodicean is just ... could take it or leave it. They don't have any *fire* burning in them. Because, like I said, when it is a *really, really* hot day, man, you want something cold. When it's a *really, really* cold day you want hot soup or something like that. But something that is lukewarm ... you never really want something lukewarm. Because, basically the only thing lukewarm is good for is to induce *vomiting*. So, He says:

Revelation 3:16-17 *So, because you are lukewarm, neither cold nor hot, I am about to vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, I am rich, and I am made rich, and I have need of nothing, do you not know that you are miserable and a wanderer and poor and blind and naked.*

So, unfortunately, *that* is the attitude that commercial Babylon has brought to the world. And I'm not talking about just USA, they are commercial Babylon, they brought the system, but that system is now *everywhere*. And it doesn't matter where you go, it's *everywhere* in the world today that people ... when you get these conspiracy theories like the Earth is flat and all this stuff ... it's all over. It doesn't matter where you go because through the internet commercial Babylon has brought these things everywhere. And some of them have even started in Third World and different places depending on what it is.

But that's the problem. The problem is that the Laodicean *can't* examine himself because he doesn't see his problem. He sees everybody else's problem, right? He sees how bad the *world* is. He sees he wants to talk about how bad it is for *homosexuality* maybe, and transgenders and all this—and that stuff *is* bad, don't get me wrong—but he doesn't want to look inside of himself and see where he needs to change.

So, in the Laodicean era, this is what you have to think about, *all* of us are affected to this by one degree or another, right? So, *nobody* at this point ... or *very few*, I don't believe anybody is, there could be, I don't know everyone in the world ... but I don't believe *anyone* as of yet is 100% Philadelphian. Which means you might be 80% Philadelphian and 20% Laodicean, maybe you're 92% Philadelphian and 8% Laodicean, maybe you're 50% Laodicean and 50% Philadelphian, or maybe you're 80% Laodicean and only 20% Philadelphian. Who knows? But there's a percentage there with everybody. And that's the key, that we have to be looking in our hearts this Passover and seeing *where* are we showing those Laodicean attitudes in our life and we have to get rid of them. We have to get rid of them because everyone have it to some degree, right? And again why is that? Revelation 12:9 ... Revelation 12 and verse 9.

Revelation 12:9 *The great dragon was cast out, the old serpent being called the devil, and, Satan; he deceiving the whole inhabitable world and was cast onto the earth, and his cherubs were cast out with him.*

And it's kind of interesting that with all the stuff going on this month with the great eclipse and all the other things, the other thing happening was the comet, the Devil Comet, that was showing up. That, we know it, we know that Satan is the g-o-d of this world. We know that this is his system. We know it. It is the most *chaotic, crazy* system the world has ever known and we know that most people love it and are part of it.

So, he *has* deceived the whole world through conditioning of your mind, through daily indoctrination, and I say this all the time, TV, internet, social media *and* your environment. It's *not just* internet, that is a big part of it, that's the way Satan can get in people's mind 24/7 ... especially with iPhones, because people sleep with them and the internet is on all the time, beside causing cancer he's getting in your mind ... but it's the *environment*. It's the *system* that is there. And at this point even if internet was taken out, that can *stop* the flow of disinformation, but it's kind of too late for most people. *Most* people are already so indoctrinated with this stuff and particularly the ones who took the Covid shot, which literally has changed people's DNA and what it's doing to their mind and their body, forget about it, the cancer that it's causing.

But being part of this system, it affects your mind. And that's the problem, that Satan has deceived the world and he's affected the mind. It is the most *un-normal* system *ever*. And I've said this in other messages before, that we can sit here and we could hear this message and it all sounds *great* and *true* and, "Yeah, everything you're saying is right." And then we walk out the door and we're in a world that believes *100% the opposite* of what I'm saying.

And it doesn't matter, like I said, whether it was the Covid *plan-demic* I mean, where *every* government is forcing a shot on people that is *so* unhealthy and *killing* them and you're supposed to believe that it's actually *good* for you. Or if it's the whole point of the world trying to tell you every single day, jamming down your throat, that being transgender is *normal*. And transitioning children from being boys to girls when they're five and six and seven years old, is *normal*. For people to *choose* ... not that you're born a male or a female ... but you *choose* that at any point of your life. And all this other sick, crazy stuff. Not telling you what the *consequences* are going to be, the *misery* of these people. Because *none* of them are happy, believe me when I say it. Because you *are* created either man or a woman and to try to transition yourselves into something you're *not* and then *live* that lie your whole life and be an outcast and ... it's just so sad. And a lot of these people wind up committed suicide in the end.

But that's Satan's system. He's *blinded* most because they don't have the ability to *process* the truth because they've never *seen* anything else. That's the world we're living in. And *pride* stops people from looking into their hearts to change.

So, *in* this world where, like I said, abortion is normal, transgender is normal, all these things that are *normal* in the world, they don't see ... there is no such thing as sin any more. There is no such thing as repentance. So, at Passover time when we're looking at our hearts to *repent*, which is ... repent means to turn back from sins and turning away from the way of the world toward Yahweh. In the world today, even in churches, *there is none*. You have pastors that are gay and homosexual. *Everything* is accepted.

So, there really is no such thing as even repentance any more. It's a foreign thing and actually although the world wouldn't listen to a sermon like this anyway, but if they did, they'd probably say I'm *racist*, they bring it to *racist*, that when you're telling people to repent of sin, they'll call it racism, because that's what Satan does. He *changes* the terms of things to manipulate everything.

And that's the reason *why* it's very hard in this world for people to come to truth. But for the people that are *in* the Truth, you *have* to examine yourself. You have to see: how much have you changed from last year to this year? Meaningly, how much *stronger* are you in your faith? How much closer are you to Yahweh? How much holier is your life? How much more love is in your heart? How much more service are you doing to Yahweh and His people? These are the things you should be asking yourself. Proverbs 16 in verse 5, says:

Proverbs 16:5, 18-19 *Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to YAHWEH; though hand join in hand he should not be innocent ... drop down to verse 18 ... Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.*

And that's what it is, *pride* stops people. People *don't* want to see that they're wrong. People want to believe they're good people that simply once in a blue moon will do something bad. And the opposite is our nature is *corrupted*, it is *evil* and we have to *surrender* to the Ruach of Yahweh and we have to kill that nature. And you know what? If you don't kill that human nature in you, that human nature is going to kill you. Because it'll get you to the point where *now* you are the servant of what you obey. And you will be *obeying* that worldly nature. You'll be *just* as blinded as the people in the world, and maybe you're not thinking the world is flat or maybe you are, who knows? But you'll be thinking all kinds of other false things that are out there. Instead of taking responsibility for your *own* actions and your own *sins*, you'll be blaming somebody else. You'll be saying that it's the world's fault, it's the government's fault, it's this one's fault, it's that one's fault, instead of looking in your heart and seeing it's *your own fault* and changing. Proverbs 9, 8 through 10 says:

Proverbs 9:8-10 *Do not reprove a scorner, that he not hate you; rebuke a wise man, and he will love you. Give to a wise one, and he will be more wise; teach a just one, and he will increase in learning. The fear of YAHWEH is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

So, that's the point. Praise Elohim that with His Spirit, that when we hear these messages, they're like water in an oasis. They're water to our *soul* and they *convict* us, right? The Word of Yahweh is like a two edged sword, cutting to our heart and it's saying, "Yeah, I need to look, I need to see where I need to change." But to the worldly person, he'd listen to this and say, "Oh, wow, no. This and that ..." his *pride* would come up and he'd be angry and "Who does that person think he is?" and *bla bla bla bla bla*. And that would be because there's no fear of Yahweh, there's no fear of Yahweh in their life.

So, pride hates correction. If you are offended when you're corrected, you have a problem with pride. So, we have to love it. We have to love to be corrected and to change. Jacob 4 in verse 3, and like I said, if there was *ever* a time for this, it is *now*. Because we say about year to year, *who knows* where we'll be in a year from now? *Who on Earth knows*, with all the thing we see going on? Jacob chapter 4 in verse 3, says:

Jacob 4:3-4 *You ask, and do not receive, because you do not ask sincerely, you ask in order that you may satisfy your lusts ... so, we have to ask because of the Spirit of Yahweh what we need in our life, not asking because of covetousness and lust ... Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity ... is hatred ... with Elohim? Whoever, then, purposes to be a friend of the world is an enemy to Elohim.*

Comment: And I must have read this Scripture a hundred different times and *some just don't get it*. They just don't get it. They *want* to be part of the world and they love the world and they'll perish with the world, unfortunately. So, Yahweh also, He has a world, it's called the Kingdom of Yahweh. He has a way and in His way there *is* no sorrow, there *is* no suffering, there *is* no sickness, there *is* no death, there *is* no evil. There *is* no ... un-cooperation of people, it's the opposite. It's only love, joy, peace, cooperation, caring for our neighbor. So, you have to *choose* what world you want to be in. *That* world with Yahweh and the Kingdom of Yahweh, or Satan's world where he's the g-o-d of it and where everybody is just attacking each other and at each other's throats and *miserable* and unhappy.

Jacob 4:5 Or do you think that vainly the Scripture says, The pride dwelling in us lusts with envy?

Comment: And that's what happens. It's makes you want to do *better* than the next guy. It makes you want to *overcome* the next guy. "Hey, I don't want to be third, I want to be in the *second* place. I want to be the *first* place, I want to overcome this person."

Jacob 4:6, 10 But He gives greater grace. Because of it he says, "YAHWEH sets Himself **against** proud ones, but gives grace to humble ones." ... verse 10 ... Be humbled before YAHWEH, and He will exalt you.

So, it's up to Him. It's up to Yahweh. He gives us *gifts* and it's up to Him to exalt us. And we should be happy for other people when things happen that ... whether it's somebody is getting a *job* or maybe having a *baby*, or maybe getting a new *home* or a new *car*. Whatever it is, that somebody's been blessed with something we should be happy for them and we should be thankful to Yahweh for them. And the person who's *getting* that blessing, should be using that blessing to help other people. "Hey, I got a new car now, I could bring a widow to services." "Hey, I got a new house, I could put up brethren when they're in the area." Whatever it may be, whatever it takes.

Yahweh fights against and resists the proud but He gives grace to the humble. Must have *humility* to enter the Kingdom. The greatest men of Yahweh all had humble spirits, right? When you look at *Abraham* and *Joseph* and *David* and *Daniel*, they were all *extremely* humble people. They didn't lift themselves up over people and when they went through trials and suffering in their life. They *used* it as an avenue to humble themselves and draw closer to Yahweh, *not* as an avenue to *blame* somebody else for things they didn't have in their life.

So, the only way to loose pride is to *surrender* and allow Yahweh to break us. And there's people that will fight to the very end. Their pride is *so* strong, they will fight Yahweh to the very end and *even* though they *see* in their life that they're unhappy and miserable, they're just *so* prideful. And that's what Satan became. And that's why I said this before, if Satan repented, would Yahweh forgive him? Of course He would. Would Satan ever repent? Of course he would *not*. Because you *get* to the point that you get *so* perverted in your thinking that you even start to blame Yahweh like the Israelites did. *You* start to blame even *Yahweh* for the pride that's in *your* life and what you're doing. And that's what happened to Israel and that's why they lost out on the Kingdom. So, if we look 1st John 4, 7 and 8 [*should be verses 8 and 9*].

1st John 4:8 The one who does not love has not known Elohim, because YAHWEH is love.

Comment: Yahweh is *agape*. And there's different types of love. There's the *philia* which is *friendship* type love, there's *eros* which is a romantic type love, and there's *agape* which is just an *unconditional* love. And that's what Yahweh is.

1st John 4:9 By this was the love of Elohim toward us made known, because YAHWEH sent his only-begotten Son into the world, that we might live by Him.

And that's what Passover is all about, right? That's what we're thinking about—that we couldn't do it on our own. And we *can't* do it on our own. Do you remember the Scripture where Yahshua was talking about divorce and remarriage and the disciples were getting so discouraged, they said, "Who then can be saved?" Right? *Wow*, if this is the case, who on Earth can be saved? And what did Yahshua say? "With man it is *impossible*, but with Yahweh *all* things are possible." And that's why when we *surrender* to Him and we allow His Spirit to fill our life, He could do *anything* because He has no limitations. *Particularly* in the spirit realm there are no limitations and we have to realize that.

Yahweh is love, and the problem is, we *aren't*. As humans, we have conditional love but Yahweh's love is unconditional. We *base* our love, *based* on conditions that are made or what other people do or don't do. While Yahweh's love is just unconditional love. 1st John 3 in verse 10, one page back, says:

1st John 3:10-11 *By this the children of YAHWEH are distinguished from the children of the devil: Whoever does not practice righteousness and does not love his brother, does not belong to Elohim. Because this is the message which you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,*

Comment: Right? So, are we doing that? And this is the point, **Proverbs 18:1** *He who separates himself seeks his own desire.* So, people that are just going off by themselves and don't want to be around brethren whatsoever, that's not love. That's self-serving, that's like, "Oh, I don't want to be around *those* people. I'm going to have to serve them. I'm going to have to be *nice*. I'm going to have to *give* something of myself." And that's the total opposite, that's selfish desire, that's covetousness, but it's the opposite. Like he says:

1st John 3:12-13 *not as Cain who was of the evil one, who killed his brother. And what did he kill him? Because his works were evil, but those of his brother were righteous. So be not surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you.*

Comment: Don't be surprised. They're going to hate us because we're not *part* of that world.

1st John 3:14-16 *We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brethren. The one not loving his brother remains in death. Everyone hating his brother is a murderer, and you know that every murderer does not have everlasting life abiding in him. By this we have known His love toward us, because that One laid down His life for us; and on behalf of the brethren we ought to lay down our life ... so, are we doing that? Are we doing that?*

1st John 3:17-18 *But whoever has worldly possessions, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his mercy on him, how is the love of Elohim in him? My little children, let us not love in word, or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.*

Just like we said, *faith* is an *action* and so is love. Love is not an *emotion*, love is an *action* ... love is not an *emotion*, love is an *action*. And that's what it takes, right? So, the time of Passover is to *truly* look in our hearts and see if we're bearing fruit to Yahweh in our life. *Are we? Are we really* doing this? Romans 3:23 says:

Romans 3:23 *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of YAHWEH.*

So, everybody is in this boat. We can't be looking at this sermon and say, "Wow, what a great sermon for *him*. Oh, I hope so-and-so *really* listens to this sermon." Nope, we *each* have to look in our heart because *everyone* is a sinner and falls short of the glory of YAHWEH. And when the day of judgement comes, it's not going to be somebody else next to us up there on judgement day. It's going to be *you* and Yahshua and you'll be judged for the things you did, good or evil.

So, this is why *every* year at Passover ... like a ship that's in the water, right? And if you're just one or two knots off in the beginning, you're not going to be that far. But if you keep going, those couple of knots in the wrong direction, wow, within a few *days* you can wind up being hundreds of miles off course. And our life can get the same way. And that's why sometimes, life goes on and we don't realize we're getting away from the trunk of the tree. But that's why *every* year at Passover, it pulls us back—if we allow it to. If we *really* take the time, and it shouldn't be for ten minutes before the Passover sermon of just reading our Bible for a few minutes. It should be for *weeks*, or a *month* at a time of looking into our life and really seeing where change has to come and *making* those changes. Not just reading Scripture but literally making the changes in our life, praying to Yahweh asking Him to show us where the change needs to come. Luke 18 in verse 9. Because like I said, sometimes ... and good people sometimes ... good people that just *do not* ... *cannot* see that ... where they need change, which could be the worst sin of all though. Luke 18 in verse 9 says:

Luke 18:9-14 *And He also spoke this parable to some of those **relying** on themselves, that they are righteous, and despising the rest: Two men went up into the sanctuary to pray, one a Pharisee, and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee was standing, praying these things to himself: Elohim, I thank You that I am not as the rest of men, extortioners, covetous, adulterers, or **even as this tax collector**. I fast twice in the week; I tithe all things, as many as I get. And standing at a distance, the tax collector would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven,*

*but smote on his breast, saying, Elohim, be merciful to me, a sinner! I say to you, This one went down to his house having been justified, rather than that one. For **everyone** exalting himself will be humbled. And the one humbling himself will be exalted.*

So, like I said, if you can't see anything in your life where you need to change, then you have self-righteousness. You have the worst sin of all because that's putting a righteousness before Yahweh's righteousness. And sometimes, even in the congregations sometimes, there's people that will put their righteousness before Yahweh's righteousness, right? They'll say where *they* think modesty should be, instead of using the Biblical definition. Or they'll think what someone *else should* be or *should* not be doing. Or how *they* should be raising their kids or whatever it could be. We *all* have our ideas of what other people should do. But a lot of times, if it's not directly coming from Scripture, it's self-righteousness.

And we need to be worrying about *ourselves*, right? *Not* be worrying about trying to tell *other* people how they should be living *their* lives but how *we* need to be changing and that's what's Passover is all about ... that's what Passover is all about ... and *why* we need Yahshua's sacrifice. Because it should humble us each and every year. That without that sacrifice there's nowhere to go. You *can't* do it on your own. *You cannot* pay for those sins on your own and by *accepting* Yahshua's sacrifice, that He *came* and *humiliated* Himself, was *humbled*, was *beaten*, was *rejected*, was *crucified*, all for *you* so that *you* could actually be cleansed and be forgiven, if that doesn't humble you, I don't know what will. But that's what it's all about. So, let's start getting into the answer here. 1st John 1, 8 through 10, says:

1st John 1:8-10 *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous that He may forgive the sins, and may cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.*

So, nobody out there can say, "Well, no, I did pretty good last year, so, I'm done. I don't have any sin in my life." We all do to a degree. And like I said, *even* if that sin ... and I say *even* but it may be the *biggest* thing that all of us have to overcome, is being too Laodicean. Just being too *lax* in the ways of the world and being too part of it. And again, every time I look at the Amish and I see, wow, *these* are the remnant that's left of the Philadelphian congregation. And granted, they've fallen with truth. And they came from the Mennonites ... who many of the Mennonites were Sabbath-keepers, the Amish were not Sabbath-keepers but the Mennonites were ... and they've turned on those things. But yet when I look at their life of staying away of the world, they never changed. They never changed, still riding horse and buggy, still doing those things.

And if I'm going to say, "Well, I'm from the true remnant of Yahshua." and I'm living a life *in* the world of these things, then where am I going? So, *all* of us really have to look in our hearts and look to make those deep changes that need to be made. It's actually a new program, a new course, that I have at the school that we'll be starting in a couple of weeks *on* the becoming a Philadelphian believer. And part of it has to do with the Amish and *examining* the Amish on that.

So, Passover is a new beginning, right? Number 8 is the number of new beginnings. The resurrection happened on the 8th day, Passover is an 8 day *feast*. First, Passover and seven days of Unleavened Bread, is 8 days all together. So, it's an 8 *day feast* and it's a new beginning. So, every year we can look at that, even if ... for what ever reason ... we had a tough year and we've fallen away some, we could always at Passover get back to where we need to be. Luke 13. And it's *really* a time to look *deep* in our life and see where we need to repent. Luke 13 in verse 1:

Luke 13:1-9 *And some were present at the same time reporting to Him how the Galileans, whose blood Pilate mixed with their sacrifices. And answering, Yahshua said to them, Do you think that these Galileans were sinners beyond all the Galileans, because they were killed this way? No, but I tell you, if you **do not repent**, you will all likewise be destroyed. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell, and killed them, do you think that they were sinners beyond all men who lived in Jerusalem? No, I say to you, But if you do not repent, you will all likewise be destroyed. And He spoke this parable: A man had planted a fig tree in his vineyard. And he came looking for fruit on it and did not find any. And he said to the worker, Behold, **three years I have come** looking for the fruit on this fig tree, and found none. Cut it to the ground,*

why should the ground be wasted? And a worker said to him, master, leave it also this year until I shall dig around it and throw manure; **Maybe** it will produce fruit, and if not, **next year** you may cut it down.

And **you are that fig tree**. We, each of us, are that fig tree. And what does he say? "Leave it one more year." Like I said, Yahweh's mercy is so great and His power of forgiveness, that even when we've abused it, and even when we ... He stretched it to the point that you can't stretch it any more, you know what Yahweh does at that point? He even stretches it a little more. But there is a point where you reap what you've sown. There is a point where the cut is going to come. There is a point where the Kingdom will come. There is a point when Yahshua's going to return. There's a point of judgement where everyone will be judged for the things we did in the flesh good or bad. So, you have to look at *yourself*. Sometimes people will write me and they'll say, "Wow, when you give those sermons, I feel like you're talking to *me*." and I **am now talking to you, yes! Yes I am! I'm talking to you. You are that fig tree**. And *this* could be the last year.

So, the manure that Yahweh's putting around there, is His Ruach ... the fertilizer let's say. He's *fertilizing* us, He's giving us of His Spirit. He's blessing us, it's the 8th year. Not only is Passover 8 days, but this is the 8th year. The year of the shemita which means we're in that year of *blessing* and *this could be your last chance*. So, take advantage of it. Take advantage of it, I'm telling you, I'm talking to *you* now, remember, I'm talking to you. So, take advantage of it.

We have to make sure life ... repentance is a life long process, it's not a one time thing. But *this* is a big year. So, take advantage of it. Passover and repentance should be *deeper* every year as we grow in the Ruach, especially now in the end-time. And I've seen in my life since 2015 when Yahweh started pouring out His Ruach more powerfully and I've seen every year ... I've seen through Covid and now, through the shemita. I've *seen* and understanding things more. Understanding His Kingdom, understanding *change*, understanding *me*, understanding what I need to do. And we need to ... we need to be making those changes. 1st Timothy 1, 15 and 16:

1 Timothy 1:15-16 *It is a trustworthy saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Messiah Yahshua came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the chief. But for this reason I received mercy, that in me first Yahshua Messiah might show forth all patience, for an example to those being about to believe on Him for everlasting life.*

Wow, see, we look at the apostle Paul as the finished product, right? Right before he died, he said, "I finished the course. I kept the faith." He's ready to go because the next waking moment, he'll remember dying and then being in the Kingdom and it'll seem like two seconds to him, but it's been several thousand years. But *now* he's talking about the ... Shaul before he became *Paul*, which is 'little'. And *Shaul*, when he was *Shaul*, wow, he was over there, persecuting brethren, even submitting to their *death*. And how humble that must have made him when he became a believer. And like I said, traveling around and maybe meeting families of believers that he was participating in when they were killed ... like with Steven, right? So, he says that where Yahweh ...

1 Timothy 1:15a-16a *it's trustworthy ... they came to save sinners, and he said he's the chief, he says ... but for this reason I received mercy, that in me first Yahshua Messiah might show forth all patience ... right?*

And He does it in us too, and I know He's a lot of patience with me. But *now* it's the point where you've got to get to that next step. Paul grew in spirit because he realized his nature and it humbled him and he overcame. Galatians 2 [should be 5] in verse 24 says:

Galatians 5:24-26 *But the ones belonging to Messiah crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts. Let us therefore live by the Spirit ... live by the Ruach ... and surrender to the Ruach. Let us not be of vain glory, that ridicules one another, or envies one another.*

Let us *live* by the Ruach and surrender to the Ruach. It's a thing you have to do every day of your life. *Every* day of your life you get up and you have to decide are you going to surrender to the g-o-d of this world, to Satan, the prince of the power of the airwaves? What are you doing when you're getting up? Are you getting up and getting on your hands and knees and thanking Yahweh you're alive? Are you opening up your Bible and studying His Word? Or are you right away

on the internet? What is it? What is the first thing you do? So, *who*? Who is your master *in* your life? And that's what he says here. We have to *surrender* to the Ruach. We have to surrender.

It can only come by *humility* through *true* repentance. Which can come by *admitting* our weak state before Yahweh and surrendering fully to His Spirit, allowing it to change us, to transform us into the new being. That's what the whole new covenant is all about. That's where Adam failed. Adam and Eve did *not* allow Yahweh to do that and what did they do? They allowed the temptation of the serpent to bring them opposite, to put doubt in their life, to accuse Yahweh falsely and to be taken out of Eden. And here we are. 1st Corinthian 1:10 says:

1 Corinthian 1:10 *Now I beseech you, brothers, through the name of our Master Yahshua Messiah that you **all say the same thing**, and there be no divisions among you, but you be united in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

How can we do that unless we surrender to the Ruach? Because there *is* only one Spirit, there's only one mind, there's only one *truth*, there's only one doctrine. But as people, there's hundreds of thousands of people and *everyone* has their *own* way of doing things. They have their own *thoughts*, they have their own *ideas*. So, what we have to do is, we have to *surrender our* ways to Yahweh ways. Because you know what Yahweh says in **Isaiah [55:8]**, *My thoughts are not your thoughts, and My ways are not your ways.*

So, we may self-righteously think our ways are better, but they're not better than Yahweh's ways. And if we *are* going to get to this point where we are growing in it as a congregation, we have to surrender. We have to surrender *our* personal wants and likes to the *betterment* of the congregation. And it's beautiful when I see it in the kibbutz, in the communities we have—to travel to these places and see people happy and living this way. And you know what? They don't even realize that they're surrendering their own wants and desires. Because once you *do* it and now you all have the *same* wants and desires of pleasing Yahweh and serving each other, you don't even realize the things that you left behind.

Just like in the world when you become a believer, right? I don't think about things that I thought about and I desired when I was 18 years old. It's not even a thought in my mind now. But this is where we have. This can *only* come by *everyone* surrendering to the Spirit because we all have different definitions of everything. Even what love is, everybody has a different definition of what it is. So, we have to surrender to Yahweh. Colossians 1 in verse 24, he says:

Colossians 1:24 *And now rejoice in my sufferings on your behalf and fill up in my flesh the things lacking of the afflictions of Messiah on behalf of His body, which is the Congregation,*

Comment: Wow, what can be lacking? Well, what's lacking is in *each* of us, right? *Each* of us is lacking *something*. So, when we fill up ourselves, what it does is, it gives us the *ability* to help somebody else then. And that's what trials are for. When you go through a hard trial, whether you lost a job or maybe ... whatever ... you went into *bankruptcy* or maybe there was a *sickness* or somebody died. Whatever that trial *is*, once you go through that trial, *now* you are filling up in *your* flesh the *afflictions* that you could help somebody else that went through that trial and you could help them to overcome. So, this is what he's talking about.

Colossians 1:25-26 *of which I became a minister, according to the stewardship of Elohim given to me for you, to preach the Word of Elohim everywhere, even the mystery having been hidden from the ages and from the generations, but now is revealed to His saints;*

Comment: A mystery—what is this mystery? Everybody loves a good mystery, right? What is it?

Colossians 1:27 *to whom Elohim willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the nations, **which is** Messiah in you, the hope of glory;*

Comment: Wow! Messiah *in* you. He is *one body* literally, He is the head and we are pinkies and toes and fingers and legs and all other kinds of things. So, *that's* what the point of it *is*, but the Ruach is the *mind*. The Ruach is what's *thinking*.

The Ruach is what we need to be filled *with*. *Messiah in you, the hope of glory*. Him *living* in us and *transforming* us through His one Spirit, as long as we're surrendering our spirit.

Colossians 1:28-29 *Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may cause every man to become perfect in Messiah Yahshua, and to this end I also labor, struggling according to the working of Him who works in me in power.*

So, even the apostle Paul was *struggling* through this. Because your human nature is never going to go away. You have to keep *fighting* it and suppressing it *every day of your life* or it will come back. And you've got to get rid of that old guy. Like I always say, "Hey, this guy, Don's been following me around here for almost 40 years and I *can't* get rid of him. Try to duck in the back yard, try to move *away* and somehow he keeps finding me." But it'll happen because we're going to shed these earthly bodies and we're going to meet Yahshua in the air and then we'll be perfected. But in the mean time, *mentally*, we have to be moving toward that. We have to be *moving* toward that.

So, we have the same Spirit that Yahshua has, can you imagine? We have to embrace this and surrender our free will of pride and selfishness and self-righteousness to receive the fullness of the set-apart Spirit of Messiah. 2nd Thessalonians 2 in verse 13, he says:

2nd Thessalonians 2:13-17 *But we ought to thank Elohim always concerning you, brothers, beloved by YAHWEH, because Elohim chose you **from the beginning** to salvation in sanctification of the Spirit through a true faith, to which He called you through our preaching, to be the glory of our Master Yahshua Messiah. So, then, brothers, stand **firm** and **strongly hold the commandments you were taught**, whether by word or by our epistle. But may our Master Himself, Yahshua Messiah, and our Elohim and Father, the One having loved us and having given everlasting comfort and good hope by grace, encourage your hearts, and may He establish in you **every** good word and work.*

Wow, praise Elohim. *Amen!* So, that can only happen when we surrender ourselves, when we allow the Ruach to destroy the flesh then the Spirit can *live* and those fruits of the Spirit will manifest in our *life*. But you have to *make* it happen, it's not just going to happen. You have to work on it. When those thoughts come in, you have to take every thought into captivity, you have to rebuke it and you have to let the mind of Messiah come in and bring every thought into your life.

We're called to a life of separation, don't let your environment take your sanctification away. Environment is *big*. First lesson I learned at the Bible school 20 years ago, the environment is a *big deal*. And you have to make sure you have a sanctification in your environment. And that's why it's the timing of Yahweh because the world had gotten so bad, that's why He's calling us now to the wilderness. He's calling us *away* from this society because it's *not* going to get better. It's *only* now going to wax worse and worse until the end, but He is *sanctifying* us away from this in the wilderness.

Romans 10 in verse 17 ... because, *whatever* you focus on becomes most real to you. So, we want the focus to be on the Word of Yahweh, we want that Word of Yahweh to be like *living* water in our *hearts* and in our *minds* and in our *souls* every single day. Romans 10 in verse 17 says:

Romans 10:17 *Then faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the Word of Elohim.*

You *have* to be reading your Bible every day, *studying* every day. *Do* the 27 lessons like I said, *do* it. *Make* this a year of going through the lessons. *Read* your Bible, *study* the sermons, *follow* along with them. But you have to. You have to be praying and studying and then *saturate* yourself daily with prayer, study, *fasting* often, *meditation*. What you focus becomes most real in your mind. And your mind is a master computer. More than any computer ever made of man, but what are you uploading to that computer every day? What programs are you putting into your mind every single day? Verse 18 ... because it doesn't *stop* there. Look at verse 18:

Romans 10:18-21 *But I say, Have they not heard? ... He's talking about Israel now; so, yeah, Israel had the Word of Yahweh, they had the Torah from Moses ... Yes, rather, "into all the earth their voice went out, and to the ends of the world their words." ... so, they did hear ... But I say, Did not Israel know? First, Moses said, "I will provoke you to jealousy*

by a non-nation, by an unwise nation I will anger you." But Isaiah is very bold and says, "I was found in those not seeking Me. I became known to those not inquiring after Me" ... and this is when the Good News went around to the world and many of the non-Israelites and gentiles came in; but what does He say to Israel? ... "All the day I stretched My hands to a disobeying and contradicting people."

So, Israel *did* hear the word but it *did not* benefit them, like it talks about in Hebrews, because it was *not* mixed with *faith*. It was not mixed with faith. So, it doesn't *help* you to *read* if you don't believe. *Unless* you're reading and it's *convicting* you and you're *believing* it ... and what does that mean? If you're believing, that means that you're *doing*, that means it's bringing *action*. So, that's the whole *point* of it. It's like being someone to say, "You know what? I *love* chocolate chip cookies. *Boy*, do I love chocolate chip cookies. And you know, I do? Every week I read the recipe." It's like, "Oh, when was the last time you had chocolate chip cookies?" "Oh no, I never do." "Huh?" "No, I just read the recipe. But I read the recipe *every single week*." But what good is it? You didn't get any chocolate chip cookies. Because you *didn't take the time to do it*.

So, it's *not* just about *reading* it. There's no *righteousness* in *reading* it. There's righteousness in *believing* it because the *proof* of it will show in the deed that will follow. Because *if* you do believe, *faith without actions is dead* [Jac 2:6]. Faith will *always* bring a deed. So, you *have* to make sure that you're not just *reading* it but you're *changing* by it, you're *convicted* by it. You must get yourself to take action. Like I said, Israel heard the truth, they had the *literal* Torah of Moses that was written down from mount Sinai from Yahweh, but they had a hardened heart. Romans 2 verse 13, says:

Romans 2:13 *For not the hearers of the Torah are righteous with Elohim, but the doers of the Torah shall be justified.*

Not the *hearers* but the *doers*, right? Write down a plan of action. *Read it every day*. Don't compromise. Stand firm in your belief. *Never* compromise in your belief. And the more convicted you are, the less you'll compromise with something. That's what we have to do.

And in the end of the day ... so, what happens is, in such an evil world—and the world is so evil—what happens, like I said, that self-righteous spirit can come in very very slowly and we don't even realize it's coming in because we're looking at the world ... and yes, praise Elohim, we *should* be seeing that all these things the world is doing, are bad and evil and we want no part of it. But what happens is, sometimes your human nature can play a trick on you and make you *think* how good *you* are because of how bad the world is.

But we're *not* to compare ourselves to the world, and we're not even to compare ourselves to each other, we should be comparing ourselves to Yahweh and Yahshua. And then you really ... there's no room for self-righteousness when you do that. *You* have to look at Yahshua's example and you have to look at Yahweh's example and They're the ones we need to be comparing ourselves. And you know what? This is *extremely* humbling and maybe even *depressing*. But we have to see ourselves for who we really are. And *that* is the beginning of change.

It's just like somebody that is an addict ... and if anybody hearing this has ever known somebody that could have been a drug addict or an alcohol addict or any kind of addict to anything ... you know that, unfortunately, you have to let that addict hit rock bottom or he's not going to change. And before that they'll lie, they'll cheat, they'll steal, they don't even know what they're doing, because it's a *spirit* in them. It's a demonic spirit that's doing these things. And once they hit rock bottom, they hit that point where they're just ... they can't take it any more and *then* they're convicted—the pain and pleasure thing—that they *have* to change.

So, it's the same way that comes here, sometimes we have to see ourselves for what we really are before we're really going to be convicted that we need change. So, *don't* look at the world out there and think, "You know, I'm not that bad. Eh, I know I need to change a little bit." **No, no! We need to change a lot**, because the Kingdom is only a very short few years away and we still have a long way to go.

So, compare yourself to Yahweh and Yahshua and you'll look at it from a completely different standpoint. And that's the only real beginning of real repentance and change. Even though we can't fully understand the love of Yahweh in a human

body with a distorted nature, we can know that Yahweh is so separated and so high above everything, that we could ever *hope* to be in *faith* if we totally surrender to *Him*, we have the assurance that *one day* He will transform us to be *just like Him* and be His literal child. And with His Spirit living in us, we can have a *small* glimpse of how that's going to be. We look through a glass half darkened.

So, but, with that Spirit we have that hope every day and if we're *growing* in it, that the day will come, we'll shed these bodies and we will be *just like Him*. Now we're in Him, in embryo form, but we'll be just like Him. Matthew 5:48 says:

Matthew 5:48 *Therefore, you become perfect, ... or complete ... even as your Father in Heaven is complete.*

And it's a long road. It's a yearly process, but here we are, another Passover. And *this* is the time of the year where we're *commanded* to do this more than ever. Don't let this Passover *pass* without doing it. *Really* look at yourself, *really* make that commitment, *make* that plan of action, *really* look and say, "You know what? This coming year, like the fig tree, if this could be the last year that Yahweh's going to work with me ... " And I mean *you*, I'm telling you, I'm talking to *you*. I'm talking to you. Actually, I'm talking to me. I'm talking to myself. In every sermon I'm really talking to myself, I'm only playing because of so many people that write me and say, "Wow, I'm feeling like you're talking to me." But really, to be honest, I'm really talking to myself.

And I am talking to myself because knowing the times we're living in, I'm saying, I am going to make this the biggest year of my life. I am going to make sure that this is the year the things I need to change, I'm going to change, and *this* is going to be that year. Because I don't want Yahweh coming next year and seeing a dead tree and uprooting it. I want Him to see a fig tree with ... like we had here, in the place we were staying, figs all over the place. Hundreds of them that we couldn't even eat them all and that's the kind of fig tree that I want to be. So, 2nd Peter 3 in verse 18, 2nd Peter 3:18 says:

2nd Peter 3:18 *But grow in grace and knowledge of our Master and Savior, Yahshua Messiah and of YAHWEH the Father. To Him be the glory, both now and to the days of eternity.*

We have to *grow* in that grace. It's a *process*, but the process starts here. *Don't* let another day go by. Don't let another year go by without working on it. And now I *do* mean you. Now I do mean you. I want you to work on it. All right, we'll do it together, okay? Let's make a deal. We'll do it together, I'll work on it, you work on it, we're going to do this together, but we're going to *make* it. We're going to make it and this is going to be the year we're going to do it. Last Scripture, 1st John 3. Just wait now, we've got one more Scripture and then you'll be able to get up. 1st John 3 starting in verse 1, says:

1st John 3:1 *See what manner of love the Father has given us ... Right? See what kind of agape the Father has given us ... that we may be called sons ... children ... of YAHWEH, who made us. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.*

Comment: So, like it says, don't be surprised when it hates you, of course, that's a *good* thing. If the world hates me, I know I've got to be doing something right.

1st John 3:2-3 *Beloved, now we are the sons ... or children ... of YAHWEH, and it is not yet revealed what we shall be. But we know that if He is revealed, we shall be like Him, because we will see Him as He is. And **everyone** having this hope on Him purifies himself even as that One is pure.*

Wow. So, look what it says, when He returns, we will *see Him* as He *is*, because we will be *like Him* at that time. But it doesn't happen over night like anything else. It takes *time*, it takes a process and unless we are doing it *now*, we will not be close enough then to make that last turn and shedding these bodies.

So, like I said, this is a *big* Passover. *Don't let this opportunity pass*. This is the greatest promise that when Yahshua returns we will be *like Him*. And it should fill us with joy and hope and motivate us to live for the Kingdom every day. But also give us the responsibility that we need to purify ourselves daily to receive this great hope. It should give us peace and encouragement for the great transformation that will come at Yahshua's return. Yahweh bless. Shabbat shalom.